



MEMORANDUM

TO: Deschutes County Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Tarik Rawlings, Senior Transportation Planner

DATE: December 6, 2023

RE: December 6, 2023, Public Hearing: Draft 2020-2040 Tumalo Community Plan Update, File 247-23-000509-PA, 510-TA

The Planning Division is updating the 2010-2030 Tumalo Community Plan (TCP) to 2020-2040 due to changes in the community and passage of time. Additionally, the County received a \$75,000 Transportation Grant Management (TGM) from the State, of which \$50,000 was dedicated to update the bike/ped/transit, aka Active Transportation, element of the TCP. The County hired Kittelson and Associates (KAI) to do the work for the TGM grant.

The purpose of this memo is to summarize the public comments received regarding the TCP either in person or online, and to provide a recap of the public process undertaken for this project. Following a work session before the Board on December 4, 2023, the Board will hold a public hearing on December 6, 2023.

I. BACKGROUND

Tumalo is an Unincorporated Community under Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 660-022, meaning the land use pattern is quasi-urban in terms of density and land uses and predated the Oregon’s land use system, which began in 1973. The state classifies Tumalo as a Rural Unincorporated Community¹ and the County administers it under Deschutes County Code (DCC) 18.67. The Tumalo Community Plan is Section 4.7 of the Comprehensive Plan and appears as Appendix B of the Comprehensive Plan.

Staff prepared a website, www.deschutes.org/tumaloplan, which featured a StoryMap that provided a narrative of the project, the community’s history, the purpose of the TCP, surveys, and an

¹ OAR 660-020-010(7) “Rural Community is an unincorporated community which consists primarily of permanent residential dwellings but also has at least two other land uses that provide commercial, industrial, or public uses (including but not limited to schools, churches, grange halls, post offices) to the community, the surrounding area, or to persons traveling through the area.”

opportunity to leave a contact email. Additionally, the full record including public and agency comments is included at the following project-specific website: <https://www.deschutescounty.gov/cd/page/tumalo-community-plan-update-2020-2040-247-23-000509-pa-510-ta>

Staff provided numerous methods for the public to provide input on what they wanted in the TCP, comments on the community vision as well as specific draft goals and policies. The public outreach methods ranged from traditional meetings in the Tumalo School Gym to face-to-face meetings at a local coffeehouse to Zoom meetings. Public outreach included mailers to Tumalo residents initially then emails via Constant Contact based on information from attendance sheets, contact info left at the website, or phone calls and/or emails to Planning staff. Outreach for specific events included:

- Tumalo StoryMap #1, April 27-May 25, 2022
- Tumalo Community Plan Open House #1, May 11, 2022 (Kick Off meeting)
- Meet A Planner, Tumalo Coffeehouse, Zoom, or phone, June 13-24, 2022
- Tumalo StoryMap #2, June 29-July 27, 2022
- Tumalo Community Plan Open House, #2, August 22, 2022 (Draft TCP, 1st version)
- Meet A Planner, Tumalo Coffeehouse, Zoom, or phone, May 2-9, 2023
- Tumalo StoryMap #3, April 23, 2023, to present
- Tumalo Open House #3, May 17, 2023, (Draft TCP, 2nd version)

II. KEY ASPECTS OF THE 2020-2040 TCP

The prevailing sentiment of the public who attended or commented was they wanted to preserve Tumalo’s feel of being a small town. There were also concerns about the possibility of private sewer which serves the higher density residential neighborhood on the south side of U.S. 20 extending across the highway into Tumalo. A number of public comments focused on limiting the number of dwelling units that could be approved in association with a multi-family complex. Other concerns included balancing economic development with Tumalo’s historically rural nature, the side effects of tourism, protecting the Deschutes River, and concerns about rising traffic volumes and the speed of traffic.

Below is a summary of the differences between the current TCP and the draft update.

Differences Between Draft 2020 TCP and 2010 TCP

SECTION TITLE	GOALS			POLICIES			
	Same	Changed	New	Same	Changed	New	Deleted
Land Use		X		2	2		2
Natural Resources, Open Space, Rec			X	1	9	6	
Residential Area			X	2		2	4
Econ Development			X	2	3	1	1
Public Facilities		X			6	5	2
Transportation		X		NA	NA	NA	NA
Road Network	NA	NA	NA		3	1	1

Roads & sidewalks	NA	NA	NA	2	3	2	
Totals		3	3	9	26	17	10

An attached color-coded version of the TCP is included to show how various goals and policies address these and other issues. Additionally, the attached spreadsheet compares and contrasts the 2020-2040 TCP goals and policies to the 2010-2030 TCP and provides a summary of why the text remained the same, was changed, or new language was added.

III. KEY ASPECTS OF THE TGM GRANT FOR BIKE/PED/TRANSIT IN TUMALO

The Tumalo portion of the TGM grant had an overlap with the TCP, including having consultant staff at the May 11, 2022, Kick Off meeting. Other public outreach occurred via:

- Walking downtown tour of Tumalo, focusing on bike/ped/transit, June 8, 2022
- Interactive StoryMap, June 8-July 13, 2022
- Virtual Open House, October 5-24, 2022

The dominant themes were safety and improvements to lower speeds; pedestrian connectivity; location of future transit stop; and potential amendments to bike standards in Deschutes County Code (DCC) at 17.48, Table A (Road Standards) and Table B (Bikeway Standards). The specific recommendations are found in two memos, Final Concept Plan (December 7, 2022) and TCP Active Transportation Update and SCVAP Trails Expansion Outreach – Implementation Measures Deschutes County Code (January 31, 2023).

IV. RELATIONSHIP TO TUMALO SEWER FEASIBILITY STUDY

While the TCP and sewer feasibility unfolded at roughly the same time, they have no regulatory relationship. The sewer feasibility study was an economic analysis of various alternatives to bring sewer to Tumalo via either extension of Tumalo Property Owners Association (TPOA) existing private system; a new local and collector system; or having a pipeline connect to the City of Bend system. The study’s assumption and conclusions can be found at this link:

[full_report_and_appendices.pdf \(deschutes.org\)](https://www.deschutes.org/files/2023/01/full_report_and_appendices.pdf)

While the sewer feasibility study was a separate process, staff repeatedly heard from the community about its concerns regarding cost, effect of development, fees, and potential implications for denser development. Staff crafted policies in response to these concerns that appear in the TCP Public Facilities section.

V. PLANNING COMMISSION REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION

Staff held a July 27, 2023, work session² with the Planning Commission (PC) to provide an overview of the updated TCP and the process to create it. The PC held a public hearing³ on August 10, 2023, on the draft 2020-2040 TCP. The PC voted to continue the public hearing to August 24, 2023⁴ and collected additional public comments. At the conclusion of oral testimony on August 24, 2023, the PC voted to close the oral and record and leave the written record open until 4 p.m. on September 7, 2023. Deliberations before the PC were initially held on October 12, 2023⁵ with the PC voting to continue deliberations until October 26, 2023. The PC held continued deliberations on October 26, 2023⁶, ultimately making a recommendation to the Board to adopt the TCP document including the following amendments:

- Remove Policies #10 and #11 from the Natural Resources, Open Space, and Recreation Policies section of the TCP's goals and policies. *(5 Commissioners in favor, 1 Commissioner in opposition, 1 Commissioner abstained)*
- Add a policy to explore legislative changes to limit multi-family housing to 4 units in Tumalo. *(7 Commissioners unanimously in favor)*
- Support for public art in Tumalo. *(7 Commissioners unanimously in favor)*
- Encourage residents and community groups to reach out to Deschutes County for updates and information. *(5 Commissioners in favor, 2 Commissioners in opposition)*

In anticipation of the Board's public hearing on December 6, 2023, notice was provided to the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) on July 6, 2023 with a Notice of Application sent to agency partners on July 21, 2023. Additionally, a Notice of Public Hearing was published in the Bulletin newspaper on November 19, 2023 and courtesy email notice was sent to participating parties on November 17, 2023.

VI. NEXT STEPS

The Board will open the hearing on December 6, 2023. Staff will provide a brief review of the TCP process; the Board may then ask if there are any public agencies present that may wish to provide comment; then request comments from the public. This can include those present and those on Zoom or the telephone. At the conclusion of public testimony, the Board can ask if staff has any responses to the comments from agencies or the public. The Board may then:

- Hold the oral and written record open and continue the hearing to a date certain
- Close the oral record and hold the written record open to a date certain
- Close both the oral and written record and set a date certain for deliberations
- Close both the oral and written record and begin deliberations

VII. CONCLUSION

² <https://www.deschutes.org/bc-pc/page/planning-commission-37>

³ <https://www.deschutes.org/bc-pc/page/planning-commission-38>

⁴ <https://www.deschutes.org/bc-pc/page/planning-commission-39>

⁵ <https://www.deschutes.org/bc-pc/page/planning-commission-41>

⁶ <https://www.deschutes.org/bc-pc/page/planning-commission-42>

Staff is prepared to answer any questions.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Draft Tumalo Community Plan (2020-2040)
2. TCP Findings
3. Color-coded version of goals and policies
4. Spreadsheet of 2020 and 2010 TCP text with notes
5. Final memos for Tumalo bike/ped/transit portion of TGM grant
 - Final Concept Plan (December 7, 2022)
 - TCP Active Transportation Update and SCVAP Trails Expansion Outreach - Implementation Measures Deschutes County Code (January 31, 2023)